STAY HOME
STAY SAFE
SIDDHARTA

STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

Vol. 43 No. 38 Pages: 12 Rs. 2.00
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MYSURU Wednesday 1st April 2020
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REDUCE YOUR RISK OF
CORONAVIRUS
INFECTION
Clean hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub
Cover nose and mouth when coughing with tissue or flexed elbow
Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms
SOUTHERN STAR

Markets on the move

- MCC to sell vegetables, fruits at your doorstep
- 25 vehicles to be deployed across the city

Mysuru, Apr. 1 (RK,MTY&KS)- To prevent rush at vegetable and fruit shops and also to prevent people from straying out of their houses, the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) has begun selling vegetables and fruits at the doorsteps since yesterday.

Mayor Tasneem and Deputy Mayor C. Sridhar flagged off vehicles which will go around the city throughout the day selling fruits and vegetables.

Yesterday, three vehicles were deployed to sell fruits and vegetables and today two vehicles were deployed to Sharadadevi Nagar and Siddathanagar. Sources said that more vehicles would be deployed.

Agreement with farmers: As farmers could not sell their produce directly to HOPCOMS due to technical impediment, only two-three vehicles were deployed to sell fruits and vegetables yesterday.

Today, the technicalities were resolved and farmers could sell vegetables to HOPCOMS, sources said. Once vegetables and fruits are procured from farmers, more vehicles would be deployed to sell the agri produce, sources added.

Explaining about the initiative to MLA L. Nagendra during a meeting held at the MCC's Old Council Hall yesterday, MCC Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde said that talks were held with HOPCOMS to sell vegetables and fruits at the doorsteps in all areas.

Mayor Tasneem and Deputy Mayor C. Sridhar, who flagged off the MCC vehicles to sell vegetables and fruits yesterday, are seen giving sanitisers to the staff deployed with the vehicle.

He said that from today (Apr. 1), 25 vehicles would be moving around in various localities and sell fruits and vegetables. A request in this regard was made to the Police Department, which has assured of deploying a Home Guard to each vehicle, the MCC Commissioner added.

Stating that the responsibility of this initiative has been given to the MCC City Planning Joint Director and Superintending Engineer, Gurudatta Hegde said that the delivery of vegetables and fruits would be done as per a designated route map.

MLA Nagendra said that officials should be prepared to deliver groceries to every house that can last for two months.

Stating that there were complaints that some Fair Price Shops were not providing rations, Nagendra asked Hegde to instruct Joint Director of the Food and Civil Supplies Department to provide rations without imposing any conditions to BPL and APL Card holders.

STAR PUNCH

By Satish Acharya

Mysuru District among India's 25 Coronavirus hotspots

Virus is still in the local transmission stage, says Union Government

Bengaluru, Apr. 1 (KMS & BCT)- The Union Government has identified Mysuru among 25 hotspots highlighted with number of confirmed Coronavirus cases. The information has been tweeted by Karnataka Health Minister B. Sriramulu this morning. Even Bengaluru Urban District figures in the list. Mysuru, with a total of 14 confirmed cases since the last 14 days, is in 21st position while Bengaluru Urban, with a total 33 confirmed cases so far and 23 confirmed cases since the last 14 days has been placed in seventh place.

(See HOTSPOT on page 3)

Abracadabra...

By K.B. Ganapathy

"Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam"

We are one world, one people and one earth citizen

"No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main, ...Any man's death diminishes me, because I'm involved in mankind. And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee." — **John Donne**

From ancient times of this ancient country, the eternal truth of life *"Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam"* was enshrined in its *Maha Upanishad,* the sacred book said to have been authored by not one but many enlightened divine souls. They lived and faded away into eternity leaving these words of eternal truth behind. This eternal truth is to be remembered and practiced in our lives today and in future if mankind were to survive on this planet.

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic that is stalking the world as a scourge, breaking barriers of countries, races and religions should drive into our minds the significance of this aphorism *"Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam"* (the world is one family) which elucidates the country's global outlook.

If the people of the world, because of the differences of their countries, races, religions and military or economic power **trample over the common values,** common interests in wealth, health and well-being, there indeed is a great danger to the very existence of human beings on this planet earth.

Nature has no borders. It does not separate one man from another as Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Black, White or Brown, old or young. Hence, it is as bountiful as it is merciless to mankind without any discrimination. And we get Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Thus, at this time when nature seems to punish mankind, probably as a retribution, for destroying the nature and its environment in the name of economic development, we the people of the world, forgetting about our differences of religion etc., must come together, co-operate with each other and fight this pandemic Coronavirus. Only then we will succeed. Otherwise we will perish. We are warned.

As Dr. S.P. Somashekhar, MS, FRCS, of Manipal Hospital, has rightly said in an article on man's fight against cancer, "We as human beings are constantly fighting in our life — either with the external world or within ourselves. We are constantly in a state of war, especially when it comes to our health."

Now with Coronavirus attacking our health, we are in a state of war against this evil. And a war can be won only when we as people work together, fight together under the leadership of a General. Therefore, it is imperative that we in India co-operate with the Central and State Governments keeping aside our petty pride and prejudices. Let India rise as ONE MAN to fight and win this war against Coronavirus pandemic.

Here let us remember what the poet, John Donne, poignantly said: "No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main, ...Any man's death diminishes me, because I'm involved in mankind. And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee."

A Healthy India is a Happy India. Jai Hind.

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."
Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.
Editor-in-Chief K.B. Ganapathy B.A.; B.L.
Mysuru, Wednesday 1st April 2020

Home-bound for *homework*

In an act of empathy for the cause of children in primary schools of Karnataka, the Minister for Primary and Secondary Education in the State Government prescribed not too long ago to the teacher fraternity not to *burden* the children with homework, adding to two other measures of keeping the weight of the school bag to bearable limits and declaring Saturdays as bag-less days. Now, it is the turn of the nation's citizens to comply with the stipulation of not to stir out of their dwellings treating the front door as the *Lakshman Rekha* and the work-force in many sectors to work from home, while the industries that compels the workers to be in their work-place are required to shut down, but not to either serve the pink slip or stop payment of wages. Every measure, solely in the interest of people's safety from the notorious virus, is in the nature of fire-fighting operations, which the proportion of the population not falling in line is annoyingly high. The Government is virtually facing a litmus test as it were in transforming a country of disorderly masses into one of citizens adhering to civic sense.

Only the members of families in advanced age, grandmas and grandpas, those with physical disabilities, sufferers from illnesses restricting their mobility and so on, with no option other than keeping indoors, are now joined by their cohorts working in many sectors of the economy not only to stay put within the four walls of their homes but also do *homework*.

In the days preceding the emergence of the virus that has taken heavy toll of life in most countries of the world, the home-front used to be lorded over by the home-maker with the children relishing the freedom from their demanding fathers. Taking the case of computer software professionals, reportedly accounting for nearly three lakhs in Bengaluru, described as Silicon Valley of the East, most of them absent from home for as many as 14 hours a day, are now seen both as strangers and agents of disturbing the peace in their homes. Thousands of these professionals, popularly known as *techies*, most of them in either their late twenties or early thirties, are said to have never *worked* from home. Their home makers, typically, may accept the changed scenario of having their chief wage-earners with mixed feelings.

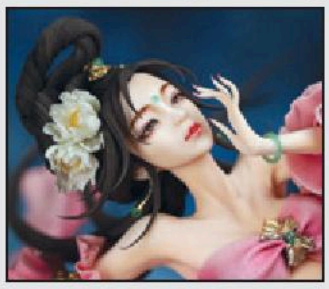
In the new order ushered in by the authorities, the fractured ethos towards family life in densely populated urban spaces, may witness a welcome change for better lifestyle. The image of the housewife, the caregiver of the family is sure to be seen in better light. Her lifetime regimen of *homework* now finds her partner-in-life making substantial contribution to the nation's economic health despite the slowdown, while the virus is doing its bit in a negative sense. Hail *homework*!

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

On his return home, US Prez Donald Trump has said that any crowd he attracts in America will be disappointingly small in comparison with the huge throngs which turned up to greet him during his visit to India. The US President and his family did draw huge crowds during their visit. Indeed, so do most foreign VVIPs who come here. Part of the reason is that Indians are a welcoming people, by nature and custom. But perhaps a more compelling reason is gratitude. We are grateful when people whom our *sarkar* deems to be important drop by as our guests, and to show our gratitude we turn up in throngs to greet them. Why are we so beholden to our VVIP visitors? For the simple reason that, thanks to them, our civic authorities bestir themselves and tidy up the muck and garbage that are an eyesore — not to mention a smelly nosesore — in all our towns and cities, barring those few select areas where the political and affluent privilegentsia happen to live. — *Jug Suraiya in The Times of India*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Exquisite fondant sculptures of China's Sugar King



Beijing: When it comes to fondant modelling, there are few food artists in the world who can even hold a candle to Zhou Yi, China's famous "Sugar King". His amazing sculptures are so incredibly detailed that even though they're edible, they definitely qualify as 'too good to eat'.

In early 2018, he blew everyone's minds at the International Cake Competition, where he and his team managed to win three gold medals and one bronze, with an incredible cake featuring an awe-inspiring fondant sculpture of Empress Wu Zetian, the only female ruler in China's history, as a young woman. It was so detailed that judges could literally count her eyelashes. He was the first Chinese artist to get a gold medal, and even though he was already very popular on Chinese social media, his fame grew even more after being featured in national and international news outlets.

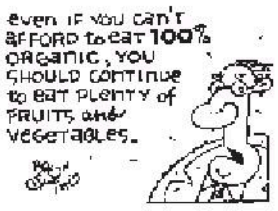
Ballpoint pen portraits of Samia Al Homsi Dagher

Lebanon: Samia Al Homsi Dagher, a software engineer and illustrator from Lebanon, has made a name for herself by creating stunningly realistic ballpoint pen portraits. From celebrities to commission portraits of everyday people, this talented artist's artworks are sometimes hard to tell apart from photographs.

Born in 1987, the Tripoli-based artist started drawing when she was only five-year-old and as one can see from the images below, she has gotten a lot better since. She is now considered one of the world's best ballpoint pen illustrators and it's not hard to see why. The attention to detail, the precision of every stroke and dot, the perfect proportions of various facial features, all come together to form drawings that are sometimes indistinguishable from photographs.

HEALTH CAPSULE by Bron Smith

Can eating organic foods cut my cancer risk?



French researchers analysed the diets of 68,946 participants and found a 25% decrease of all types of cancer among those who regularly ate organic foods. The risk for Lymphoma was greatly decreased by 76%.

**Health Capsules is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature.*

Asha Kirana Hospital's "Goodwill Bag"

Gururaja

Mysuru, Apr. 1- Asha Kirana Hospital is giving away a 'Goodwill Bag' to all the staff in the Hospital, including doctors, counsellors, nurses and maintenance staff.

Hospital Trustee K.S. Gururaja came up with the idea of the 'Goodwill Bag' that consists of 10-kg rice, 2-kg toor dal, 2-letre cooking oil, one dettol soap for handwash, one packet of bleaching powder for safe environment.

Hospital Chairman Dr. S.N. Mothi has, in a press release, said: "We are dispatching antiretroviral medicines by courier to Asha Kirana patients to ensure adherence. Antiretroviral Therapy is not available in all pharmacies, hence sent by Speed Post."

The statement further adds: "Many staff have fear to come out but still come with a motto to serve. The 'Goodwill Bag' is not a gesture to pay back; Instead it is a gesture to pay forward so that the entire team works with resolve, respect and resilience during this challenging crisis."

865 COVID-19 patients die in US, highest in one day: Report

Washington, Apr.1- The Coronavirus pandemic killed a record 865 people in the United States in the 24 hours until this morning, according to a tally compiled by Johns Hopkins University.

The US death toll rose from 3,008 at 6 am (IST) on Tuesday to 3,873 at 6 am (IST) on Wednesday.

The United States now has 1,88,172 confirmed cases, by far the highest of any country, ahead of Italy, Spain and China.

Really...?

- ***Tiny single-celled algae called coccolithophores have lived in Earth's oceans for 200 million years. Unlike any other marine plant, they surround themselves with minuscule plates of calcite (coccoliths). Just under 100 million years ago, conditions were just right for coccolithophores to accumulate in a thick layer coating ocean floors in a white ooze. As further sediment built up on top, the pressure compressed the coccoliths to form rock, creating chalk deposits such as the white cliffs of Dover. Coccolithophores are just one of many prehistoric species that have been immortalised in fossil form, but how do we know how old they are? Over time, rock forms in horizontal layers, leaving older rocks at the bottom and younger rocks near the top. By studying the type of rock in which a fossil is found palaeontologists can roughly guess its age. Carbon dating estimates a fossil's age more precisely, based on the rate of decay of radioactive elements such as carbon-14.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

A doctor accidentally prescribes his patient a laxative instead of a cough syrup. Three days later the patient comes for a check-up and the doctor asks: "Well? Are you still coughing?"
The patient replies: "No. I'm afraid to."

Today's Currency Rate

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 75.80
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 93.87
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.64
1 Euro	= Rs. 83.06

VOICE OF THE READER

Supply of vegetables, groceries during lockdown

Sir,

The actions taken by the Government of Karnataka in general and the Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Mysuru in particular are commendable. Their role in spreading the awareness and advisory on the pandemic to the general public is also laudable.

Though the crowd is getting reduced many people are moving around in their vehicle(s) to market places as many essential items are not available in their area, especially vegetables, fruits and limited supply of groceries. This is true in my area Bogadi North.

The only vegetable shop is closed and street vendors disappeared fearing action by the administration, though limited grocery is available which may disappear soon. The vegetable shops are unable to replenish as the supply line is cut off and vendors cannot bring the vegetables as the public transport like autos and goods vehicles are absent on the roads.

As a result, many people who have vehicles are moving out and getting their replenishment from markets or super-markets. That is why the crowd on the roads and markets.

Furthermore, many people, especially senior citizens, in the absence of any autos and app-based vehicles are distressed, as they cannot move about to get the essential items. Under the present circumstances, I suggest the District Administration to make necessary arrangements for supply of vegetables and fruits by HOPCOMS in mobile vans and also authorise vegetable vendors to supply vegetables in carts or vehicles.

In North Bogadi they can provide the facility near Nandini Milk Bar (close to Mylari Hotel), Bogadi Main Road (also called Nirmithi Kendra Road). This is a central place in North Bogadi and those who buy milk products can also buy vegetables, thereby reducing the additional movement of people for vegetables.

In a similar way the District Administration may establish HOPCOM Centres (mobile van or a temporary shed) in various locations of the city. Furthermore, please ensure the supply line is re-established for replenishment of groceries in the kirana stores.

Hope, the District Administration will consider the proposal favourably and arrange the facility on a war-footing.

—Dr. Mahadeswara Swamy
on e-mail

Bogadi
26.3.2020

NOTE: *Since last evening, the District Administration has made necessary arrangements in this regard by opening temporary vegetable markets at seven locations in city. Also the MCC has deployed 25 vehicles to sell fruits and vegetables across Mysuru.* **—Ed**

SWR Mysuru Division provides relief to Porters at Railway Station

Mysuru, Apr. 1- As a goodwill and humanitarian gesture, Mysuru Division (Officers' Association) led by Divisional Railway Manager, South Western Railways (SWR), Mysuru,Aparna Garg distributed ration yesterday to about 50 licensed coolie Porters working at Mysuru Railway Station.

Each of the Porter was provided 5 kg rice, 2 kg wheat flour, 1 kg each dhal, sugar, edible oil and salt plus tea powder and biscuit packets to enable them to tide over the situation for the next one week.

The coolie Porters are totally dependent on the earnings they make at Railway Station for their livelihood and as such the total lockdown has badly affected them.

As per the existing policy, the licensed coolie Porters and their immediate family members can only avail OPD services at the Railway-run Hospitals across the country. Protective face masks and soap was also given away to them explaining the need for maintaining personal hygiene and social distancing to ward off infections.

Speaking on the occasion, Aparna Garg stated that this is a small contribution from the Officers' Association aimed at mitigating their sufferings brought about unexpectedly by the COVID-19 pandemic. She also called upon the other philanthropic organisations, NGOs engaged in social work to come forward, according to a press release from Priya Shetty, Divisional Commercial Manager and PRO, SWR, Mysuru.

Mysuru District among India's 25 Coronavirus hotspots

(Continued from page 1)

Maharashtra (Mumbai) tops the list with 142 confirmed cases so far and 130 confirmed cases since the last 14 days.

Kerala's Kasargod stands second with 107 confirmed cases so far and 103 confirmed cases since the last 14 days.

Hyderabad in Telangana stands third with 53 confirmed cases so far and 44 confirmed cases since the last 14 days.

The toppers

Mumbai, Kasargod, Hyderabad, Kannur, Pune, Gautam Buddha Nagar in Uttar Pradesh and Bengaluru Urban are the top seven cities with more than 30 cases each.

Andhra Pradesh reported 43 new cases overnight, taly in the State now rises to 87.

The report released by the Union Government says there are 1,397 confirmed Corona cases in India and cases in seven States (Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Andhra, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu) are doubling faster than all India average.

Seven States where COVID-19 cases are growing fast are Delhi, J&K, Andhra, UP, West Bengal, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. The 10 States that are contributing to more than 80 percent of COVID-19 cases in India are Maharashtra, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, J&K, Karnataka, Telangana, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Punjab.

The Government said then virus is still in the local transmission stage. Earlier in the day, the Government also denied "rumours and media reports" about an extension of the lockdown, saying it was "baseless".

Doctor tests positive

Meanwhile, a Delhi Government-run hospital was shut down today after a doctor tested positive for Coronavirus. The doctor worked at the Delhi State Cancer Institute. The hospital building's OPD, offices and labs have been shut and are being sanitized, say officials. Those who came in contact with the doctor are also being quarantined. The doctor may have contracted COVID-19 from relatives who had returned from the United Kingdom, said the hospital.

Section 144 extended up to Apr. 14 midnight in B'luru

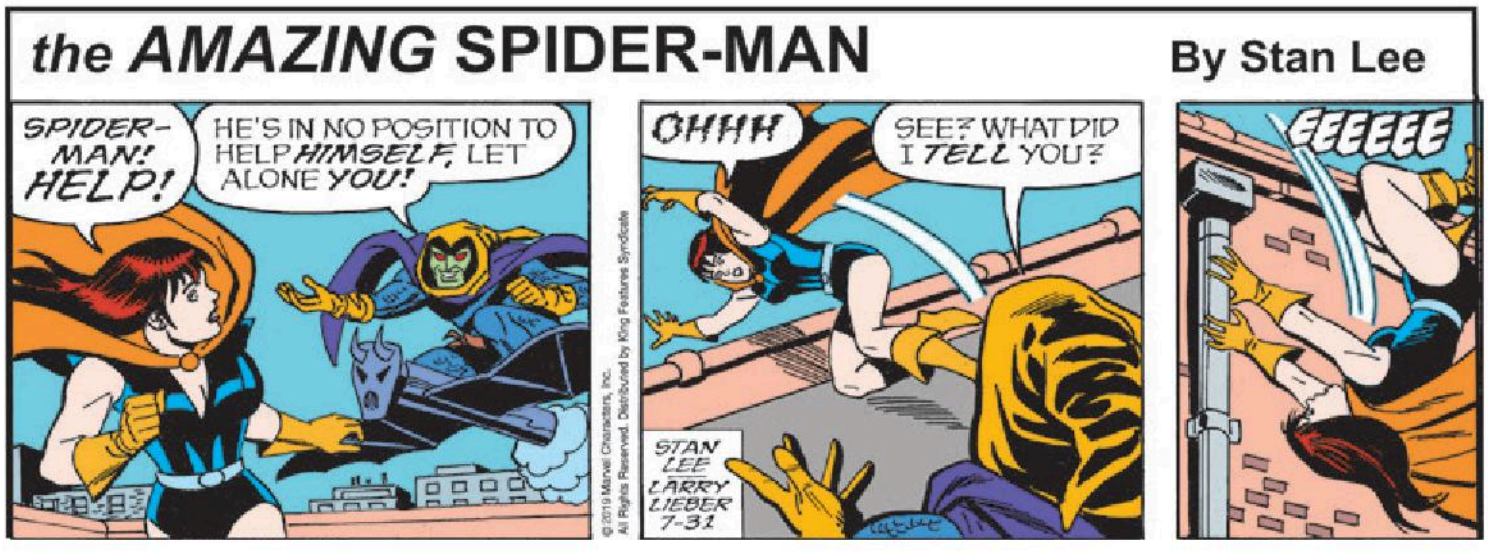
Bhaskar Rao

Bengaluru, Apr. 1 (UNI)- Prohibitory orders in Bengaluru under Section 144 of the CrPC have been extended from last midnight to Apr. 14 in view of the growing number of COVID-19 patients in the State, the Bengaluru City Police Commissioner Bhaskar Rao said.

He noted that it had become imperative to take stringent measures in the jurisdiction of Commissioner of Bengaluru city to prevent the spread of the disease. The prohibitory orders with exception to essential services came into force from Tuesday midnight to Apr. 14 midnight.

Those exempted from the lockdown are defence, Police forces, media, public utilities, electricity, sanitation, APMC Mandis, hospitals and transport of essential services.

The Commissioner said all the schools and places of worship will remain shut.


the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
By Stan Lee
SPIDER-MAN! HELP!
HE'S IN NO POSITION TO HELP HIMSELF, LET ALONE YOU!
OHHH
SEE? WHAT DID I TELL YOU?
EEEEEE
STAN LEE
LARRY LIEBER
7-31
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NEWS BRIEFS

Zoo, Karanji Lake closed till Apr. 14

As the nation lockdown was extended from Mar.31 to Apr.14 to contain the deadly COVID-19, Mysuru Zoo and Karanji Lake Nature Park have also extended the closure till Apr. 14. The Zoo Executive Director has, in a press release, requested the public to co-operate.

Karnataka CET postponed

The Common Entrance Test (CET) - 2020 for admission to professional courses such as Engineering, Architecture, Pharmacy, Agriculture etc., (barring Medical and Dental courses) in colleges of the State, which was scheduled to take place on Apr. 22 and 23, has been postponed indefinitely, due to COVID-19 lockdown, according to Deputy Chief Minister Dr. C.N. Ashwath Narayan. The CET has been postponed as the second PUC exam is incomplete due to lockdown and the next date will be announced once the second PUC exam gets over, which is likely to happen in the third week of April.

KPSC exams deferred

Following the COVID-19 lockdown, the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC) has postponed the competitive exams that were scheduled to take place on Apr.11 and May 3. The KPSC has also postponed the Departmental exams and the next date will be announced later, according to a release from KPSC Secretary G. Satyavathi.

KSRTC apprentice: Last date extended

Applications had been invited for the post of technical apprentice at KSRTC in Mysuru city Transport Division from candidates who have passed SSLC/ ITI. The last date to apply has been extended to Apr. 25, according to a press release.

KRS Water Level

(Maximum : 124.80 feet)

Today	104.51 ft
Inflow	90 cusecs
Outflow	3507 cusecs

Kabini Level

(Maximum : 2,284.00 feet)

Today	2,271.96 ft
Inflow	147 cusecs
Outflow	1175 cusecs

Migrant labourers get food and shelter at N.R. Choultry

Mysuru, Apr. 1 (RK&AM)- Why does one leave his or her village or town? For better prospects, for a better life for themselves and their families perhaps right? So has been the case for many migrant labourers across the nation who have moved to cities with better infrastructure in search of jobs and better education and life for their children.

The Royal City of Mysuru also has such migrant workers from other districts and some from the neighbouring States too. The city too has such migrants who came here as masons, contract labourers, cooks, stewards and so on. But now, with the lockdown in place in the country, with no buses, trains or any other means of transport, the woes of these migrants are heart-wrenching.

Although, the District Administration, in association with the MCC and MUDA has made arrangements for accommodation and food for these migrants and also their families, which include aged parents, wives and children, nothing is as comforting as being inside their own homes in their own cities, towns or villages.

Nobody will question this now, especially at a time when everyone are confined to homes, but still getting our essential supplies and surviving with sustenance, thanks to the efforts of the District Administration and the State Government.

Apart from these migrants, there are a few others — homeless and poor people (who have no homes and can't even afford a day's meal), who are being provided with food, toilets and a place to sleep including blankets and bedspreads.

Close to 3,000 such people are being helped out by the District Administration, MCC and MUDA by placing them at various community halls, hostels and Government School buildings across the Nine Zones of MCC in 65 Wards.

They have set up 17 Centres, 'Shelters for the Homeless' in all the Wards with each Centre having an Officer Designate whose responsibility is to ensure three meals a day, clean toilets and sleeping arrangements for these 3,000 people stuck in the city with no option of going to their own homes.

The District Administration is being helped by many organisations of the city including Rotary, JSS Institutions, Bishop of Mysuru, Mysuru District Journalists' Association, and Sri Sumathinath Jain Navyuvak Mandali among many others.

Around 20 women and 260 men have been sheltered at Nanjaraja Bahadur Choultry on Vinoba Road and at the Youth Hostel in T.K. Layout with food, toilets and blankets. Members of Sri Sumathinath Jain Navyuvak Mandali distributed blankets to those placed at Nanjaraja Choultry.

Food and drinking water to all 17 Centres and the above mentioned places are provided by only those having 'Food Distribution Passes.' Volunteers, along with respective Ward Corporators and Designated Officers, with all safety measures in place, distribute meals to these migrants and other homeless and poor people at each Centre.

In case anyone falls sick at these Centres, the Administration has also made arrangements for them to be taken to the nearest Primary Health Centres.

A few migrants told *Star of Mysore* that their only request to the Government was to make arrangements for them to travel back to their hometowns. They urged that a special bus be arranged for them with designated passes to travel back to their places.

"Although we are getting food and have sleeping arrangements, maintaining hygiene, especially cleanliness of toilets becomes a huge issue with so many of us in one place. Even social distancing is a challenge," said these migrant labourers.

As per the orders from the District Administration, "all NGOs and charity organisations are instructed to obtain permission from the respective Incident Commanders (MCC or MUDA) before distributing food or groceries to the needy in city. Permission from Incident Commanders is compulsory."

Police seize over 300 vehicles for lockdown violations

Mysuru, Apr. 1 (RK&DM)- In a crackdown on COVID-19 lockdown violators, the City Police on Monday seized 303 vehicles across the city for violation of lockdown regulations.

The seized vehicles included 285 two-wheelers, 10 autorickshaws and eight cars.

DCP Dr. A.N. Prakash Gowda said that the Police were forced to seize the vehicles as they came on to the roads despite regular appeals to the public not to unnecessarily venture on to the roads as lockdown was in force.

Pointing out that the vehicles were seized after their images of moving on roads were captured by CCTV cameras installed at numerous points in city, the DCP said that the vehicle owners will be served a notice on taking action against them for lockdown violations.

Asserting that the seized vehicles will not be released until the lockdown gets over, Dr. Prakash Gowda appealed the public to follow lockdown regulations and to stay indoors as a safety measure.

From a place of Social Gathering to a place of Social Distancing

Please, stay at home for your, our safety

The Chikka Gadiyara Market (Dufferin Clock Tower) which used to be abuzz with hundreds of vendors and shoppers every other day wears a deserted look now. This spot that was developed as a **social gathering place** by the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) some years ago has now become a **social distancing place.** What an irony.

This lung space in the heart of the city is adjacent to Devaraja Market and was developed when M.J. Ravikumar was the Mayor as a "social gathering place" where visitors could get the right feel, space and environment to sit and relax with some cultural events too. But now it wears a deserted look with both the vendors and the visitors preferring self-isolation rather than face the lathi-wielding cops who dot the city centre to counter the deadly Corona.

[Pics by M.N. Lakshminarayana Yadav, 'SOM' photographer]

India, the world's largest democracy is under the world's biggest lockdown with 1.3 billion people ordered to stay home in a bid to stop Coronavirus overwhelming the country's fragile healthcare system.

While in many places Police personnel used canes to beat people into compliance, the Mysuru Police, realising that beating does not work all the times, have started pleading with people asking them to stay at homes.

With folded hands, the Mysuru Traffic Police and Home Guards are requesting lockdown violators to stay indoors and be safe.

Coronavirus treatments to watch

Vaccines could take time but in the meantime, drug companies and other labs are working on a range of approaches to give doctors a variety of tools. Some of the drugs seek to stop the virus itself; others aim to treat the potentially deadly complications it can cause.

The Milken Institute, which is tracking the various efforts, has stated that as of Mar. 26, two potential vaccines have advanced to clinical trials. They are being developed by Moderna, Inc. and CanSino Biologics. In addition, the World Health Organization announced the global SOLIDARITY trial to develop treatments for the disease.

In total, the Milken Institute is now tracking 71 treatments and 47 vaccines in development. Of the 47 vaccines open of them is being developed by Serum Institute in Pune which is still in pre-clinical stage.

Remdesivir

Status: In human trials, with some data expected in April.

Remdesivir, a drug designed to treat Ebola. The drug has drawn substantial interest as a possible COVID-19 treatment, so much so that the company had to stop accepting requests for emergency access to it from COVID-19 patients.

Remdesivir is currently the subject of at least seven clinical trials in COVID-19 patients, according to the Milken Institute. Clinical data from two Phase 3 trials of the drug are expected in April. Remdesivir is delivered intravenously, which means it will likely only be used for severe cases of the disease.

Chloroquine and Hydroxychloroquine

Status: In human trials.

The FDA has issued an Emergency Use Authorization to allow it to be used in certain COVID-19 patients.

These closely-related anti-malaria drugs have emerged as the most controversial potential COVID-19 treatments.

The drug gained prominence due to President Donald Trump's touting of Hydroxychloroquine's potential in speeches and on *Twitter*.

Also, Hydroxychloroquine has been approved by both ICMR as prophylactic and the FDA on Mar. 30 gave an "Emergency Use Authorization" allowing Hydroxychloroquine Sulfate and Chloroquine phosphate from the Strategic National Stockpile to be used in teen and adult patients hospitalised with COVID-19.

Meanwhile, the drugs are the subject of dozens of clinical trials, often in combination with other medications. All there is now is that anecdotal evidence. But this drug is undergoing trials in certain hospitals in USA.

Kevzara

Status: In human trials.

Kevzara, an arthritis drug is being tested in two separate Phase 2/3 trials in hospitalized patients with severe COVID-19.

The drug, a so-called IL-6 inhibitor, may be able to tamp down inflammation in the lungs that, in serious COVID-19 cases, can lead to death.

Mysuru: A Look at its Past...

By Gouri Satya, Sr.Journalist

When Bubonic Plague hit Mysore State in 1896

The outbreak of Coronavirus across the countries has led to radical measures like curfew, lock-down and isolation to fight against the dreaded COVID-19. But such deadly outbreaks were not uncommon and they took a heavy toll of human lives, let alone the loss of cattle. How these outbreaks were fought is worth gleaning through the historical records, particularly at a time when medical science had not advanced as we see today and medical facilities were almost lacking or primitive over a century ago.

The Bubonic Plague of 1896, for example, had its origin in China like the present COVID-19 and spread to many countries, causing an unimaginable loss in those countries including India. In China alone, thousands of people lost their lives. In India, which was under the British regime, brutal measures were adopted and quarantine camps and hospitals were set up hurriedly. Affected people lost their property when their houses, food, and clothes were burnt to prevent infection from spreading, resulting in chaos and anger among the people. When the toll began to rise, there was panic all over. By the end of 1906, the loss of human lives was as huge as ten lakh.

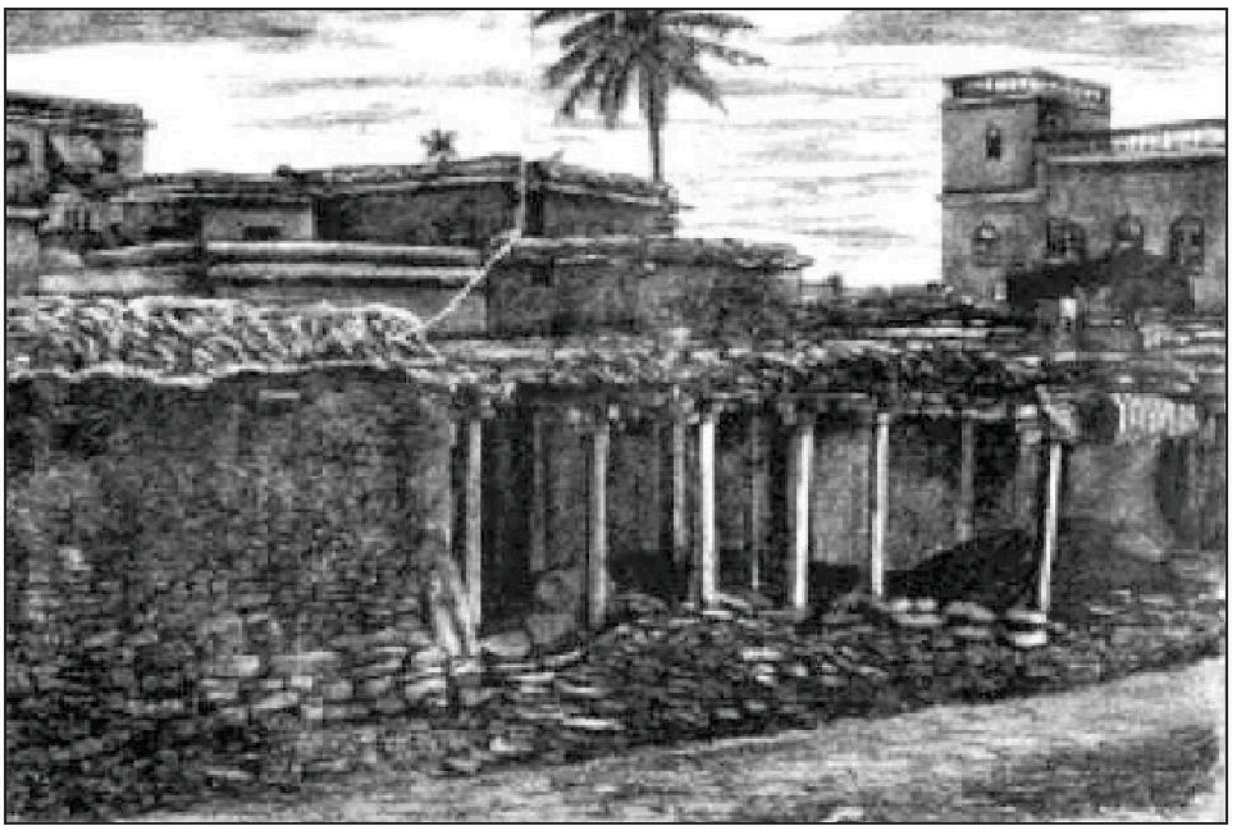
Plague hits Mysore State

Then Mysore State was no exception and the epidemic, breaking out in 1898 and lasting for nearly three years, wrought havoc among the lives of the people. By the end of June 1904, it had claimed 1,06,950 victims in the whole of Mysore State after affecting as many as 1,41,403 people. In other words, 2.5 per cent of the population was attacked by the plague, and of those attacked, nearly 76 per cent had died.

Mysore city too witnessed heavy loss, deaths of about 17 per cent, during the period. In Bangalore district, there were 14,831 attacks and 12,273 deaths. In Bangalore city alone, it was 3,346 and 2,665, respectively. Visit to the cemetery was a routine feature as death came in overwhelming numbers. In the wiped out families, there were none to conduct the last rites. Corpses were carried, at the cost of the Government, to be buried or burnt. Death certificates were issued without delay.

Blame it on evil eyes

The local population took recourse to home-made remedies like traditional potions and medicines. Blaming the evil eyes of Mariyamma, people worshipped her pleading to combat death in their family. They carried '*Thambittu*' and neem leaves to the Mariyamma shrines, along with their children. They tied talisman around their necks to ward off her eyes of death. There were several shrines dedicated to 'Mari'. One such temple stands



even now attached to the southern side of the fort wall, outside the Palace, near the Gun House, and devotees go there now also with '*Thambittu*' and neem leaves on their head and worship 'Mari'. The fall of a dead rat from the bamboo roof of a house was enough to create panic among the residents in the town of the approaching small-pox. People would scream 'rat has fallen, rat has fallen' *(ili biddide, ili biddide)* in the little town within the Palace Fort where resided most of the city's population. The reason for the panic was the fear that the disease would spread when the infected fleas on the rodents bit human beings or when human beings came in contact with the carcass of an infected rodent.

Diseases wreak havoc

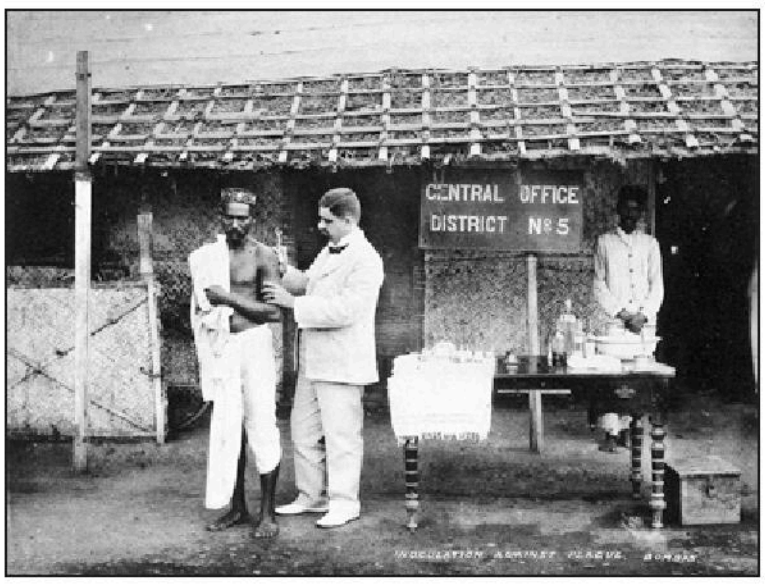
Small mud and bamboo thatched houses and country-tiled houses mushroomed all around the old Palace within the fort. Each house was attached to the other in the small narrow lanes. Their windows and doors were small letting in limited air and light. Consequently, the ventilation was poor. As there was no water supply system then, residents had to fetch water from tanks like Doddakere or Karanji Kere for drinking and other purposes. There was also no drainage system and the town's sanitation was poor. This unhygienic condition often resulted in several diseases like plague, cholera, small-pox, malaria, tuberculosis (TB) and influenza, playing havoc on the inhabitants in the town year after year. Plague and cholera were the most dreaded disease which wrought havoc on the lives of the people.

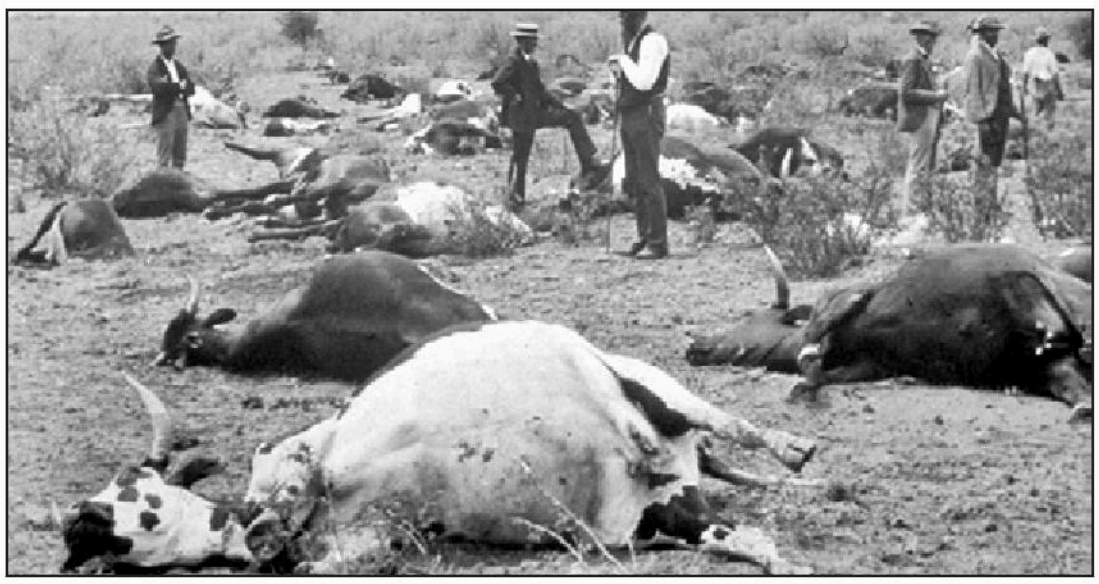
Soon after the alarm raised by the residents, the authorities went into action. The drum-beater was sent to warn people of the 'arrival of Maari' *(Maari bandaite, hushaarappo)*. People prepared themselves to quit the town in a hurry to a safer place or migrate to another town to avoid casualties in the family. Large exodus gave the deserted town a ghostly look.

Temporary camps

When such epidemics broke out, Maharaja Krishnaraja Wadiyar III arranged for temporary camps to be set up outside the town, in open and safe places, and near tanks like Kukkarahalli, where people had easy access to water, and families residing in the congested places of the town were shifted to these camps. People were allowed to return to their homes only after the epidemic showed signs of waning. The shifting of the people was nothing short of isolating the residents from the danger of the disease and the affected.

[Continued on page 8]





The plague-related photos are for representation purpose only *[Courtesy internet]*

All 14 COVID-19 patients shifted to District Hospital

Workers wear Personal Protective Equipment to cleanse Coronavirus Ward at K.R. Hospital

Mysuru, Apr.1 (RK&DM)- All the 14 patients of the District, who have been tested positive for Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), are being treated at the New District Hospital on KRS Road (near PKTB Sanatorium) with doctors and other supporting medical staff taking care of them round-the-clock.

The new District Hospital has readied 150 beds, 50 beds in each of its three floors, exclusively for COVID-19 patients with an objective of meeting emergencies even as COVID -19 cases continue to rise in the State.

Out of the 14 COVID-19 patients, three of them who were tested positive earlier, were hitherto being treated at the COVID-19 Ward in K.R. Hospital while eleven others were directly admitted at the District Hospital. But last Monday, all the three were shifted to the District Hospital to ensure that all the 14 cases reported from the district are treated at one place.

With the new District Hospital becoming the centre for COVID-19 treatment, the hospital doctors are working round-the-clock in three shifts, with three peripheral doctors, two doctors from the Medicine Department of K.R. Hospital and four nursing staff, supported by four sweepers *(ayahs)* working in each shift.

The Anaesthesia Department has been entrusted with the responsibility of carrying out fumigation by spraying disinfectants at the corridors of the hospital on regular basis. The Hospital also has 16 other COVID-19 suspects who are currently under hospital quarantine and awaiting medical reports.

All the medical staff of the hospital are provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), which includes a shoe cover, body gown, head gear, goggles, face mask, hand gloves and N-95 mask, according to District Surgeon Dr. Lakshman.

Apart from the new District Hospital, the AYUSH Hospital located close by too has been readied with 100 beds for meeting any medical emergencies. It may be mentioned here that the District Administration has already taken over B.M. Hospital on Hunsur road for the purpose.

Meanwhile, COVID-19 Ward in K.R. Hospital has now become empty after all the three patients who were being treated there have been shifted to new District Hospital on Monday.

K.R. Hospital authorities conducted wholesome sanitisation of the Ward as per medical protocol and the Ward will be used for other medical purposes soon. The Hospital staff on Monday carried out fumigation in three stages in and around the Ward, wearing safety gears.

First, the Ward was sprayed with Fluoride, followed by spraying of disinfectants and cleansing with sanitisers, according to Resident Medical Officer (RMO) Dr. Rajesh, who also said that the Ward will be used as a general ward from now on, where patients suffering from different ailments will be treated.

COVID -19 UPDATE

MYSURU

Persons observed till date : 2,572
Persons isolated in home for 14 days : 1,667
Persons isolated in hospital : 14
Persons who have completed 14-days isolation : 891
Total samples tested: 103
Samples found Negative : 89
Total Positive cases : 14

STATE / NATION

Total Positive cases in Karnataka : 103
Total positive cases in India : 1,397
Death toll so far: 53

(Note: Figures till 1 pm)

MCC's temporary markets receive mixed response from buyers

People buying vegetables and greens at the temporary market near Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel this morning. Picture right shows the ground being levelled for parking of vehicles at the Sunday Market in Vijayanagar 2nd Stage.

Mysuru, Apr. 1 (MTY&KS)- The seven temporary markets, established by Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) at various locations in city that began functioning since last evening, received mixed response from buyers today. The seven temporary markets have been established at Ahara Mela Grounds, next to Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel, Dasara Exhibition Grounds, near BEML last Bus Stop in Srirampura, Devanur 1st Stage near Nimra Masjid, near Chamundi Vihar Stadium, Sunday Market in Vijayanagar 2nd Stage and at Bannimantap Grounds on Bengaluru Road.

Temporary markets at Dasara Exhibition Grounds and near Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel Grounds received good response this morning, while other markets received very less buyers.

The officials, in-charge of the markets near Lalitha Mahal Palace and Dasara Expo Grounds, were found supervising the business besides instructing the buyers to maintain social distancing and wear masks.

'Sunday Market' readied at Vijayanagar

The 'Sunday Market' in Vijayanagar 2nd Stage will now be used as temporary market to conduct business everyday.

The market, which was being readied yesterday, is completed and the officials are waiting for the traders to conduct business from this evening.

The place has been cleaned and the ground is levelled for parking of vehicles. Toilets and drinking water facilities have also been made.

It may be recalled that even after M.G. Road Vegetable Market was shifted to Dasara Exhibition Grounds to facilitate social distancing to contain COVID-19 pandemic, people crowded the Exhibition Grounds violating the guidelines. Hence, the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) had decided to decentralise the vegetable market to seven different locations in city to avoid rush.

When Bubonic Plague hit Mysore State in 1896

[Continued from page 6]

Under such circumstances, all meetings, including the Representative Assembly sessions, were cancelled. An extraordinary gazette issued in 1902 says, "The meeting of the Representative Assembly having had to be dispensed with on account of the plague prevailing in the City of Mysore, His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to direct that the usual address of the Dewan may be sent to the Members of the Assembly and also published for general information."

Plague Commissioner

The Government initiated several precautionary measures to meet eventual exigencies. Among them were the establishment of inspection stations and centres, examination of passengers travelling in railways and by road, enforcement of passport regulations, the establishment of temporary examining centres, enforcement of special sanitary improvements in towns and villages, general inoculation, To implement these and oversee the supervision, a special officer, designated as Plague Commissioner, was appointed. The Government also spent money from provincial and municipal funds. It also encouraged exterminating rodents, publicised methods of proper sanitation and ventilation, and even assigned cash rewards for taking such measures.

Such diseases broke out regularly, almost year after year, causing anxiety and sorrow among the residents. One of the main reasons for the regular breakout of these diseases was the unhygienic conditions in the old town with crowded country-tiled mud houses and the unhealthy conditions in the slums outside the fort. Hot and humid weather in summer added to the scourge of cholera, which was also deadly.

After 1930

It was only after 1930 the dreaded diseases came to be controlled, though they continued to be sporadic. The loss of lives was also brought down considerably because of the several measures initiated by the Maharaja's Government.

One such major initiative taken was to decongest the area within the Palace Fort. This step was initiated during the time of Maharani Kempa Nanjammanni avaru of Vani Vilas Sannidhana alone, when she was the regent between 1895 and 1902, and subsequently by Maharaja Krishnaraja Wadiyar III. They built Agraharas and Keries and gifted houses to the people. Realising the need to provide good drinking water to the residents in Mysore, the Maharani gifted money for the construction of the Vani Vilasa Water Works at Belagola to pump Cauvery water to Mysore.

Decongesting Palace

The devastating fire that destroyed the earlier Palace offered an opportunity to further decongest the area within the Fort-walls. After the marriage of Princess Jayalakshammanni with Sardar Kantharaj Urs, the wooden Palace caught fire on February 28, 1897. The fire burnt down major portions of the Palace. The construction of the present Palace was taken within a few months of the same year and was completed in 1912. However, the country-tiled houses were presenting an old and ugly look. The royal family members had to pass through narrow lanes between the old structures whenever they had to go out of the Palace.

Seeing the congested place around the Palace, Sir Mirza Ismail, who was appointed the Dewan of Mysore by Krishnaraja Wadiyar IV in 1926, represented to the Maharaja that the area around the Palace needed to be improved by removing the old and worn-out houses, which marred the beauty of the new grand structure. In its place, he suggested open spaces with gardens and good and convenient passages. The Maharaja accepted the proposal of the Dewan and new Mohallas began to come up outside the Palace Fort and those living within the Fort were shifted outside. The area around the Palace was beautified with open spaces and gardens.

Cases of epidemics begin to decline

Meanwhile, efforts to provide people with more amenities like hospitals, dispensaries, piped water supply, better drainage systems, educational institutions and infrastructures like broad-roads, gardens and public places improved the hygienic condition in the city. Cases of epidemics began to fall in numbers. Even then in the 1950s and 1960s, chicken-pox and rare cases of small-pox were affecting the residents. At such times, the health authorities visited schools and houses to vaccinate students and residents to prevent it from taking a serious turn. When diarrhoea and cholera continued to affect some residents in the city even in as late as in the 80s, they were shifted to the Epidemic Diseases Hospital (ED Hospital) outside the city and were isolated. These and many other measures made Mysuru free from epidemics.

One can imagine the plight of the people when such fearful epidemics made their appearance in the past, and also the struggle of the Government to contain the epidemics and save lives with available poor facilities and limited resources. Despite the lack of proper transportation system, diseases spread from one place to another due to various reasons, chiefly because of people coming into contact with infected people and poor hygienic conditions then prevailed. Under the changed global scenario, it is only now Mysuru is witnessing stern measures like lockdown and isolation to combat Coronavirus, perhaps after a century.

Liquor sales in district banned till Apr.14

Mysuru, Apr.1 (MTY&DM)- As part of strict enforcement of the countrywide lockdown, the District Administration has banned sale of liquor till Apr. 14.

Addressing a press meet here yesterday, Mysuru Excise Deputy Commissioner K.S. Murali said that following a Government order, all liquor shops and outlets in the city and district have been ordered to shut down from Mar.23 to Apr.14. Noting that this measure has been taken in order to prevent public crowding, he warned of severe action if anyone is found selling liquor in violation of the ban order. He appealed the public to call Ph: 0821-2541863 in case they come across sale of liquor in their vicinity.

Cautioning the alcoholics against falling prey to illicit and spurious liquor, Murali appealed the public to control their mind through meditation. Pointing out that doctors, paramedical staff, the media, Police and other Governmental staff are working overtime to contain the spread of the novel Coronavirus, he sought the co-operation of the public in these difficult times.

Stating that 13 teams of Excise Department staff are working round-the-clock to prevent sale of illicit liquor in the wake of lockdown, he said that 40 litres of hooch has been seized so far in the district. Murali further said that the public can call the following numbers if they come across manufacture, sale or transportation of hooch anywhere in the district:

Dy. Excise Superintendent, Mysuru	**0821-2524060 / 94495-97182**
Excise Inspector, Mysuru	**94495-97183**
Excise Inspector, Zone-1	**0821-2438269 / 89042-57177**
Excise Inspector Zone-2	**0821-2418274 / 99005-56621**
Excise Inspector Zone-3	**0821-2414035 / 94491-30867**
Excise Inspector Zone-4	**0821-2446670 / 90366-00199**
Excise Inspector, Nanjangud	**08221-224720 / 99005-98030**
Excise Inspector, T. Narasipur	**08227-261674 / 99648-38903**
Excise Dy. Commissioner, Hunsur	**08222-252434 / 94495-97184**
Excise Inspector, Hunsur Sub-Division	**94495-97185**
Excise Inspector, Hunsur Range	**08222-251690**
Excise Inspector, H.D. Kote	**08228-297195 / 96110-44444**
Excise Inspector, K.R.Nagar	**08223-264801 / 73535-49061**
Excise Inspector, Periyapatna	**08223-273373 / 94492-19257**
District Excise Squad	**94495-97181**
Excise Deputy Commissioner	**94495-97178**
District Control Room	**0821-2541863**

Lockdown has a dramatic impact on pollution in cities

New Delhi, Apr. 1 (Agencies)- When India imposed a nationwide lockdown a week ago, it was designed to stop the imminent spread of the novel Coronavirus. But grinding this country of 1.3 billion people to a near halt has also provided a temporary remedy to another pressing health issue: Suffocating pollution levels.

According to latest reports, environmental data shows that the major cities are recording much lower levels of harmful microscopic particulate matter known as PM 2.5, and of nitrogen dioxide, which is released by vehicles and power plants.

PM 2.5, which is smaller than 2.5 micrometers in diameter, is considered particularly dangerous as it can lodge deep into the lungs and pass into other organs and the bloodstream, causing serious health risks.

Government data shows the average concentration of PM 2.5 plunged by 71 percent in the space of a week in New Delhi. Earlier it was 91 microgram per cubic meter. The World Health Organisation considers anything above 25 to be unsafe. Nitrogen dioxide went from 52 per cubic meter to 15 in the same period.

The nationwide curfew in India on Mar. 22 also resulted in the lowest one-day traffic pollution levels on record, analysis from Creating Resources for Empowerment in Action (CREA) said. Other dangerous pollutants, PM2.5 and the larger PM10, which are less than 10 micrometers in diameter, also dropped steeply, the report added. Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Bengaluru have also recorded a fall in these air pollutants.

Mysuru Zoo shut due to Coronavirus...

But animals still need care

Mysuru, Apr. 1 (MTY&AM)- At a time when caring for one's self and maintaining social distance, not stepping out of the house have become the needs of the hour, here is a true example of the human species going beyond the call of duty to care and tend for the animals and birds at Mysuru Zoo, feeding them every day without fail.

Although the Zoo is closed for public, the creatures inside still need to be fed and taken care of. And this is being done by around 200 employees, with masks on, who every day, reach the Zoo at 8.30 am, clean their shoes on the chemically treated mats, then sanitise their hands thoroughly and only then enter the premises.

Even the wheels of the trucks carrying vegetables, fruits and meat for the Zoo animals, are treated with chemical disinfectants before letting them inside.

The Zookeepers are strictly adhering to the safety protocols and maintain social distance even when on their coffee breaks or during lunch, it is learnt.

Although many of the Zoo employees are on forced leave due to the lockdown, that is not the case for these Zookeepers, whose everyday duty is to feed the animals, clean the cages, provide drinking water and most importantly, spend time with these animals, which are so used to seeing their caregivers every day.

If you have ever visited the Zoo, you would have noticed how the animals react on seeing their caregivers, especially with food in hand. The animal world too feels all kinds of emotions, just like us, humans.

Zoo Executive Director Ajit M. Kulkarni, speaking to *Star of Mysore*, said, "It is a testing time for everyone amidst the Corona outbreak and it is our duty to care for these animals at the Zoo. All the employees compulsorily wear masks and use hand sanitisers upon entry into the Zoo. We are ensuring hygiene and safety of both the employees and the animals. Except of security personnel and Zookeepers, all other office work have been completely shut for now. The Zoo will remain closed till Apr. 14 as of now as per the orders of the Government."

A security guard at the entrance of the Mysuru Zoo is seen applying sanitiser to the hands of an employee before letting him inside.

Thermal Screening introduced in APMC

Mysuru, Apr. 1 (RKB&DM)- With the number of COVID-19 positive cases continuing to rise across the State, the Mysuru APMC (Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee) located on Nanjangud Road, has introduced Thermal Screening system, where all those entering the market premises will be screened for Novel Coronavirus symptoms.

On Tuesday, every person entering the market premises was thermally screened.

With Nanjangud being declared as a Red Alert zone, the authorities have taken all precautionary and safety measures to ensure that no one enters the APMC market without undergoing thermal screening.

In the meantime,the Mysuru APMC is flooded with loads of vegetables and subsequently, the District Administration is said to have instructed for transportation of vegetables and food grains to other States.

The Mysuru APMC, which was always buzzing with activity before the lockdown, is now witnessing a sharp drop in business. Although the Government has directed for movement of food grains and other essential commodities, many retail traders and members of the public seem to be hesitant to visit the APMC due to Coronavirus scare.

Meanwhile, the MCC, which is carrying out cleaning, fumigation and sanitisation activities in most parts of the city, with all roads wearing a deserted look following the lockdown, seems to have ignored the APMC.

The Civic Body is said to have left out the APMC as it owes Rs.60 lakh as Tax. Ignored by the MCC, the APMC traders and customers are a worried lot as an uncleaned market would expose them to epidemics.

'Do not send labourers back'

Bengaluru, Apr. 1 (UNI)- Karnataka Government has asked project contractors, builders and developers in cities not to send their labourers to their native place and instead provide them with amenities like food and shelter in this lockdown period. Legal action would be taken against them if they violated the instructions from the Government.

A notice signed by Revenue Minister R. Ashoka said that the contractors who have been entrusted projects contract should not send labourers working under them to their native place during the lockdown period. It is their responsibility to providing labourers with food, grocery, accommodation and other necessary arrangements during the lockdown, it said. In a similar notice to builders and developers in Bengaluru, they have been asked not to send labourers working under them to their native during the lockdown, and provide them with basic amenities. Speaking to reporters, Ashoka said that no labourer or any other persons should be forced to vacate their rented accommodation by owners or landlords.

When a 'friend' is in need...

Dogs are said to be man's best friend. Pets at home are generally given all attention and care. But missing that attention and care are these stray dogs that wag their tails to anyone who shows a little affection towards them. Now, with the nation under lockdown, these street buddies are missing their daily dose of care and a little food that they got wandering around petty shops and tea stalls on road sides. Picture above shows a concerned person feeding biscuits to these animals. Similarly, there are many animal-lovers who are helping the stray animals across the city.

Periyapatna woman murder case

District Minister warns Police of action

Periyapatna, Apr. 1- Upset over Police apathy, District Minister V. Somanna on Tuesday warned Periyapatna Police that he would be forced to order registration of an FIR against them if they failed to crack the murder of a woman who was brutally hacked to death at her home in Periyapatna town in broad daylight two months ago.

Kalavathi, a housewife and a resident of Brahmin Street in the town, was found murdered in her home on Feb.3 by unidentified miscreants, reportedly with an intention of looting jewellery and other valuables. But the Police have failed to crack the mysterious murder case even after two months.

At a meeting held here on Tuesday, Somanna took Police Sub-Inspector Ganesh and Circle Inspector Pradeep to task for not cracking the case.

Instructing the Police to intensify investigation once the lockdown gets over, Somanna warned that he would be forced to show his authority as the District in-Charge Minister if the Police failed to crack the murder case.

Noting that he has received many letters complaining of Police inaction in solving Kalavathi murder case, that shook the town two months ago, Somanna said that he was issuing a warning to the Police that a case would be registered against them if they failed to trace the culprits and arrest them once the lockdown ends. He further said that he would not tolerate any injustice to women as the District in-Charge Minister. MLA K. Mahadev, MP Pratap Simha and other officials were present.

WORD OF THE DAY

Fusty

Pronunciation: fuhst·ee
Meaning: Impaired by age or dampness (mouldy); saturated with dust and stale odours; rigidly old-fashioned or reactionary.
Origin: Fusty probably derives from the Middle English word foist, meaning "wine cask," which in turn traces to the Medieval Latin word fustis, meaning "tree trunk" or "wood." So how did fusty end up meaning "old-fashioned"? Originally, it described wine that had gotten stale from sitting in the cask for too long; fusty literally meant that the wine had the "taste of the cask." Eventually any stale food, especially damp or mouldy food, was called "fusty." Those damp and mouldy connotations were later applied to musty places, and later still to anything that had lost its freshness and interest — that is, to anything old-fashioned.
Example: She was there as an intermediary to translate the fusty old world of politics to a feisty new generation.

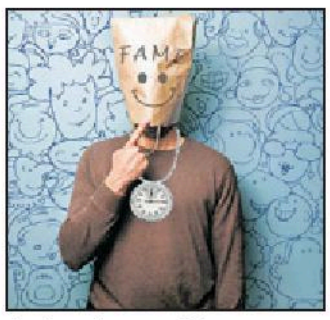
THE ODD WORD

Feculent

Covered with filth

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Fifteen minutes of fame



Meaning: This is well-known as a quotation from Andy Warhol. It does derive from Warhol — his actual line was "In the future everybody will be world famous for fifteen minutes."
Origin & Example: In February 1968 Warhol exhibited his first international retrospective exhibition at the Moderna Museet gallery in Stockholm. The exhibition catalogue contained "In the future everybody will be world famous for fifteen minutes." It is far and away the best-known of the many quotations attributed to Warhol, in fact it is probably the only comment of his that most people know.
The line began to bore Warhol in later years when interviewers kept asking him about it. In 1979 he did repeat it though, claiming that the line had truth — "my prediction from the sixties finally came true: In the future everyone will be famous for fifteen minutes."
As things have turned out the rise of celebrity culture and reality television in the Western world since then has shown Warhol to be quite prophetic. The rise of social media has turned his prophecy into fact — topics may be trending on social media and receiving worldwide attention and fifteen minutes later cease trending and be forgotten.

QUOTE BOX

Facts are stubborn, but statistics are more pliable.—**Mark Twain**

RIDDLE THIS

Why is the letter 'F' like Paris?

Answer: Because both are the capital of France.

SUDOKU

							1	5
			7		1			2
5	9			4				
7		5	2	8			3	
		9				8		
	8			6	5	4		7
				9			8	4
8			4		7			
9	5							

Answer to previous puzzle

5	6	1	4	3	2	7	8	9
7	3	4	8	9	1	5	6	2
2	8	9	6	5	7	1	4	3
3	5	7	9	6	4	2	1	8
9	1	8	7	2	3	4	5	6
4	2	6	1	8	5	9	3	7
1	7	3	2	4	6	8	9	5
8	4	5	3	7	9	6	2	1
6	9	2	5	1	8	3	7	4

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

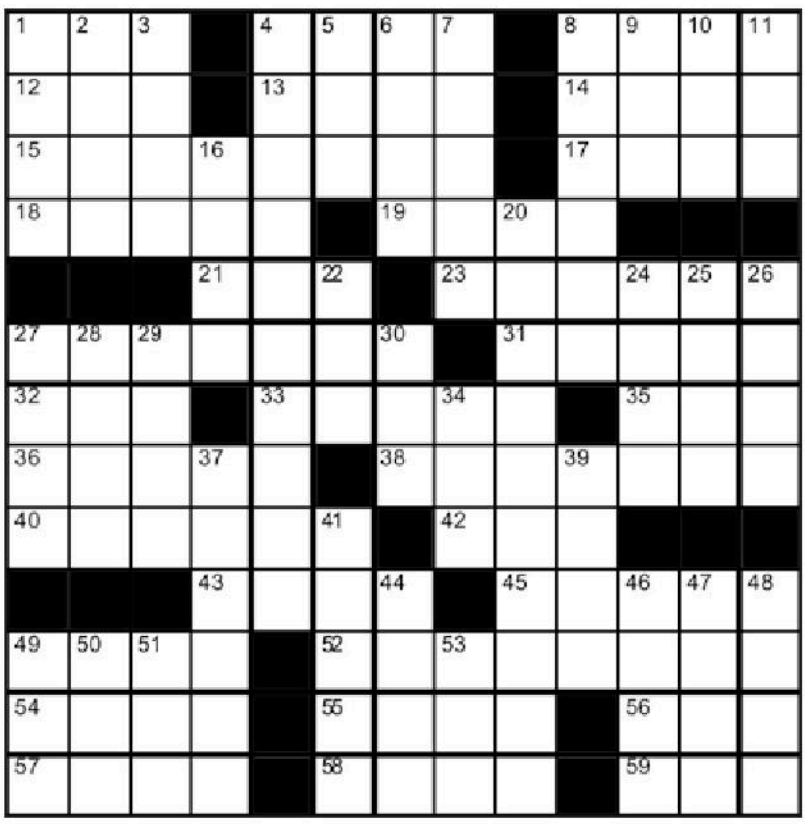
CROSS WORD

ACROSS:
1 Answer, abbr.
4 Notion in the mind
8 Dry biscuit
12 Circuit
13 Popular news channel
14 Make less severe
15 Dark-haired woman
17 In a high degree
18 Scour
19 ___ major : Big Bear in the sky?
21 Magnetic Resonance Imaging
23 Mexican treat - "at meal" anagram?
27 Italian baby
31 Situated above
32 Kyushu mountain
33 Once more
35 At ___ : perplexed or uncertain?
36 Pole of a spear
38 The survival of the ____ : the law of nature?
40 Language of the Jews
42 "Ire" anagram for a comparative suffix?
43 Chief Norse god
45 Great Australian tennis player and coach
49 Sense or touch
52 Matters remaining
54 Ever present as a prefix
55 TV sports letters
56 Performance Mgmnt. Sys.
57 Circular recording
58 Male deer
59 Opp. direction to NNW

DOWN
1 Priests' robes
2 Undercover cop, in short
3 It is used to make a horse go faster
4 Made drunk or intoxicated
5 Commonly used pesticide
6 You too in Latin (2,2)
7 Prevent, avoid
8 Do over, revise; modernise
9 United Arab Emirates
10 Former Soviet prov.
11 Lock opener
16 Pink Floyd's Comfortably _____
20 Strolling
22 Present participle suffix?
24 Church part
25 Dregs?
26 Part of QED
27 Do
28 Noted netman and unfortunate AIDS victim
29 Biblical land - "a mob" dispersed?
30 Awkward lout ?
34 Latin trio
37 Gambol
39 Pressed or crushed with feet
41 Sends a telegram or a cable
44 Cosy place
46 Pieces of crockery
47 Cloth borders
48 Being in Latin
49 Foreign Object Damage
50 Record maker: abbr.
51 Abstract being?
53 Well, spring

MARCH 23 ANSWER

S	A	T	I	■	A	N	S	I	■	E	T	C
L	O	A	D	■	S	O	T	O	■	D	U	O
E	N	L	I	G	H	T	E	N	M	E	N	T
D	E	C	O	R	■	A	P	I	O	■	■	■
■	■	■	T	I	O	■	■	C	O	P	H	A
■	A	R	S	E	N	I	C	■	N	E	U	T
A	L	I	■	G	E	N	O	A	■	R	L	S
B	O	N	N	■	S	K	I	L	F	U	L	■
C	E	D	E	D	■	■	F	I	R	■	■	■
■	■	■	T	U	T	U	■	V	I	S	T	A
H	E	L	T	E	R	S	K	E	L	T	E	R
I	K	E	■	T	O	T	E	■	L	O	L	A
M	E	W	■	S	T	A	Y	■	S	P	A	T



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and Words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

CZ OTM XCBWM TL WENKI, QWTQXW JTRXM

SNWEV ICP JCLMTJP.

TODAY'S CLUE: W EQUALS E

March 23 Cryptoquip: If all the year were playing holidays, to sport would be as tedious as to work.

Indian-origin Virologist in South Africa dies of Coronavirus complications

Gita Ramjee

Johannesburg, Apr. 1 (Agencies)- World-renowned virologist Gita Ramjee has become the first Indian-origin South African to have died after contracting the novel Coronavirus that has killed five people in the country.

Gita Ramjee, a stellar vaccine scientist and an HIV prevention research leader, had returned from London a week ago but reportedly showed no symptoms of COVID-19.

Gita Ramjee, aged nearly 50 years, was the Clinical Trials Unit Principal Investigator and Unit Director of the HIV Prevention Research Unit of the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) offices in Durban.

"We are deeply saddened to inform you of the tragic passing of Prof. Gita Ramjee in hospital today," said a statement issued by SAMRC President and CEO Glenda Gray.

"Prof. Ramjee died of COVID-19 related complications," Glenda Gray added.

In 2018, Gita Ramjee was presented with the Outstanding Female Scientist Award in Lisbon by the European Development Clinical Trials Partnerships (EDCTP) for her lifetime commitment to finding new HIV prevention methods, which are conducive to the lifestyles, circumstances and perceived risk factors that South African women are faced with.

"This award is an acknowledgement of the unwavering determination by a global community to forever change the trajectory of the HIV/AIDS epidemic," she had said at the time.

"Professor Gita Ramjee is a towering HIV prevention research leader whose work continues to contribute immensely to the global response to curb the HIV/AIDS epidemic," Glenda Gray had said after the Indian-origin scientist received the award. Gita Ramjee was married to pharmacist Pravin Ramjee, a South African of Indian descent.

Her funeral arrangements have not been announced. Attendance at funerals in South Africa is highly restricted and requires permits as the country is going through a 21-day nationwide lockdown announced last week by President Cyril Ramaphosa.

Five South Africans have died from COVID-19 since Sunday, the third day of the lockdown. Over 1,350 cases have been reported in the country so far.

The South African Government on Tuesday announced that it will double to 10,000 the teams going door-to-door to test people for COVID-19, mainly in the overcrowded Black townships created during the apartheid era.

On Sunday evening, in a national broadcast, the Government cautioned thousands of South Africans who have not been taking the lockdown seriously.

The death toll from the rapidly-spreading Coronavirus pandemic has risen to 41,654 and over 8,50,580 people have been infected by the deadly virus, according to data from Johns Hopkins University.

Stay Home to Stay Safe...

L. Yoganand, a city-based artist and an alumnus of CAVA, who is creating awareness about the Coronavirus through a video, has put up the prop depicting Google Chrome that featured in the video on the grills of Kukkarahalli Lake as if warning the people who come out on streets unnecessarily though nation lockdown is in place, to 'Stay Home to Stay Safe'

India sends COVID-19 Protective Gear to Serbia amid huge shortage at home

Health Ministry denies any knowledge of the matter

New Delhi, Apr. 1 (Agencies)- Amid a huge crunch of protective gear for medical personnel treating COVID-19 patients, India has exported 90 tons of medical equipment and safety gear to Serbia. The matter was discovered after a tweet from the Serbian wing of UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) which is the providing support to Coronavirus-effected nations. The Health Ministry denied any knowledge of the matter.

"The 2nd cargo Boeing 747 with 90t of medical protective equipment landed from India to Belgrade today. The transportation of valuable supplies purchased by @SerbianGov has been fully funded by the #EU while @UNDPSerbia organized the flight & ensured the fastest possible delivery," the tweet by UNDP read.

The 90-ton consignment included 50 tons of surgical gloves. Besides, there were masks and coveralls, which the medical workers direly needs.

The spokesperson of Kochi airport said another consignment was sent on March 29, which included 35 lakh pairs of sterile surgical glove.

The 30-ton consignment was sent to Belgrade on a Transaviaexport Airlines cargo freighter. The Cochin Customs had facilitated the clearance and tweeted about it.

The tweet read: "Cochin customs in action to clear a consignment of 35 lakhs pairs of sterile latex surgical gloves to Serbia to support the global war against #COVID2019 "

Asked about the matter, the Health Ministry said they were not aware of it. "Our effort is to create logistics in India and to acquire material from other countries. With respect to Serbia, I am not aware of it as of now," said Luv Agarwal, the Joint Secretary in MoHFW.

Nearly 100 doctors have been quarantined across the country after they came in contact with Coronavirus patients while working without any protective gear. Several have even contracted the virus.

In Lucknow, authorities of the prestigious King George's Medical University, the hub of treatment of the COVID-19 pandemic in Uttar Pradesh, turned down the OPD doctors' request for specialised protective equipment a week after a resident doctor contracted the disease.

There have been reports that doctors in some corners of the country have been using raincoats and motorbike helmets.

On Monday, the Association of Ambulance Employees in Uttar Pradesh said they were stopping work over non-payment of salaries for two months and lack of protective gear despite being on the front-line in the battle against the Coronavirus pandemic.

On Monday, the Centre said it was trying to procure bulk quantities of such gear, called Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), domestically and from South Korea and China to meet the shortages.

13-year-old UK boy dies

London, Apr. 1 (Agencies)- A 13-year-old British boy has died days after testing positive for COVID-19, hospital officials and his family have said, with relatives saying he had no underlying illnesses. The boy, who died at King's College Hospital in London on Tuesday, is believed to be Britain's youngest confirmed death in the Coronavirus pandemic.

A 12-year-old girl, whose death was confirmed earlier on Tuesday in Belgium, is thought to be Europe's youngest victim.

The boy's family said Ismail Mohamed Abdulwahab "started showing symptoms and had difficulties breathing" before he was admitted to hospital.

"He was put on a ventilator and then put into an induced coma but sadly died yesterday morning," the family said through a family friend, Mark Stephenson, adding: "We are beyond devastated."

Nathalie MacDermott, a lecturer at King's College, said: "While we know it is much less likely for children to suffer severe COVID-19 infection than older adults, this case highlights the importance of us all taking the precautions we can to reduce the spread of infection in the UK and worldwide."

She urged research into deaths outside the groups expected to succumb to infection as it "may indicate an underlying genetic susceptibility."

On Tuesday, Britain announced 381 deaths from COVID-19 in the past 24 hours, the highest figure in the country since the start of the pandemic, bringing the death toll to 1,789.

Pet cat tests positive for COVID-19 in Hong Kong

But no evidence that animals can transmit the disease

Hong Kong, Apr. 1 (Agencies)- A pet cat has tested positive for Coronavirus in Hong Kong after its owner was confirmed with having the virus, the city's Agricultural and Fisheries Department said, cautioning that the animal has not shown any signs of the disease.

In a notice late on Tuesday, the Department said there is currently no evidence that pet animals can be a source of COVID-19, the disease caused by Coronavirus, and owners should not abandon their pets.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) also states on their website that there is no evidence that a dog, cat or any pet can transmit COVID-19.

The cat is the third animal to test positive in Hong Kong, following earlier cases in which two dogs tested weak positive or positive during repeated tests for the virus. Authorities said the cat will continue to be monitored and examined.

Samples collected from the cat's mouth, nose and rectum tested positive for the virus after it was sent to quarantine on March 30.

There has only been one other reported case of coronavirus in a cat, in Belgium, which is believed to have become infected from its owner, according to a statement from the Hong Kong Veterinary Association.

The Veterinary Association said the most likely way pets would be exposed to the virus is from their owners or other people they come into contact with, and the cases were no cause for alarm.

Schools asked to postpone admission process

Bengaluru, Apr. 1- Karnataka Government has warned private educational institutions of legal action if they do not postpone the admission process and collection of fees for the next academic year, in the wake of the lockdown to fight COVID-19.

"It has been reported that some of the private educational institutions are demanding parents to pay fees for the next academic year in the month of April or May. Schools have been fixing deadlines," Primary and Secondary Education Minister Suresh Kumar said.

In view of COVID-19 and lockdown that is in place, the Education Department issued a curricular stating that admission process and collection of fees for 2020-21, including payment of fees by students continuing in same school, shall be postponed till the next Government order, the Minister noted.

"I'm making it clear, any institution violating the said Government order will be held accountable under the Education Act, including cancellation of recognition of school or educational institution," he said.

"Also, a criminal case under section 3 of the Epidemic Diseases Act of 1897, also CrPC can be booked," he said, and requested all private educational institutions to postpone admission and fee collection process for the academic year 2020-21 till further orders.

The Minister also asked schools that have sent in circulars to parents asking payment for fees to withdraw them and keep them suspended till the next Government order or else face legal consequences, including a criminal case.

Also, Kumar declared that the ongoing leave/ work from home for teachers in the wake of lockdown has been extended till April 11. "For teachers of primary and high schools of Karnataka given leave till Mar. 31 and asked to work from home, the leave has been extended till April 11, in view of the lockdown declared by the Prime Minister," he said.

"During this period, I request all the teachers to act upon the schedule of programmes given by the Department and work from home, and fully prepare for the coming academic year," he added.

COVID-19: JSS Institutions donate Rs.50 lakh

Suttur Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji is seen handing over a cheque for Rs.50 lakh to District Minister V. Somanna towards "Chief Minister's Relief Fund" in a fight against Coronavirus. The amount was a joint voluntary donation by Sri Suttur Mutt, JSS Mahavidyapeetha and employees of JSS Institutions. Present on the occasion were MP Pratap Simha, Mysuru DC Abhiram G. Sankar, JSS Mahavidyapeetha Executive Secretary Dr. C.G. Betsurmath, Secretary S. Shivakumaraswamy, JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research (JSS AHER) Pro-Chancellor Dr. B. Suresh, Mahavidyapeetha Finance Division Director S. Puttasubbappa and Collegiate Education Division's B. Niranjan Murthy.

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Printed by T.S. Gopinath and published by M. Govinde Gowda on behalf of Academy Newspapers Private Limited at Academy Newspapers Private Limited, 15-C, Industrial 'A' Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570 015. Editor: M. Govinde Gowda. Phone: 2496520/2496521/2496523/ 2496526/2496527/2496528 Fax: 0821-2496525, 2496530. City offices: Visveshwaraya Building, III Floor, K.R. CIRCLE, Mysuru-570 001, Ph: 2431774 and No. 114, D.Devaraj Urs Road, Mysuru-570 001, Ph: 2428695, E-mail address: voice@starofmysore.com, For Advertisements: ad@starofmysore.com, RNI Reg. No. 29894/78.